

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2012-57-E - ORDER NO. 2013-80

FEBRUARY 8, 2013

IN RE: Petition of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for	)	ORDER GRANTING
an Accounting Order to Defer Certain	)	EXTENSION OF TIME
Capital and Operating Costs Incurred for the	)	
Buck Natural Gas Combined Cycle	)	
Generating Plant and the Bridgewater Hydro	)	
Generating Plant	)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on a Petition by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (“DEC” or the “Company”) to extend the time it can defer in a regulatory asset account the items listed in Commission Accounting Order No. 2012-208, which permits the Company to defer certain post-in-service costs that are being or will be incurred in connection with the Buck Combined Cycle Generating Plant and the Bridgewater Hydro Generating Plant. In the original petition that resulted in Order No. 2012-208, DEC sought to defer (1) the unrecovered incremental return and depreciation expense that were incurred in the months of December 2011, and January 2012, on the plant capital costs balance as of August 31, 2011; (2) the unrecovered incremental return and depreciation expense that are being or will be incurred from December 2011, through January 2013, on the plant capital costs expenditures subsequent to August 31, 2011; and (3) the incremental non-fuel operation and maintenance (“O&M”) expenses that are or will be incurred from December 2011, through January 2013.

In the current Petition, DEC seeks to extend the time it can defer in a regulatory asset account the unrecovered incremental return and depreciation expense that are being or will be incurred (item (2) above) and the incremental non-fuel O&M expenses that are or will be incurred (item (3) above). Order No. 2012-208 allows the Company a deferral from December 2011, through January 2013, under the assumption that new rates would be effective February 6, 2013, reflecting the additional costs of the Buck and Bridgewater Plants and thereby eliminating the need for the deferral requested past that date.

However, the Company now anticipates filing its next base rate case in March of 2013, with new rates effective September 2013. As a result, DEC requests an extension of the deferral period to September 2013, or until new base rates become effective, whichever occurs first. DEC calculates the additional deferred cost included in this request to be \$3.7 million as allocated to South Carolina retail operations.

The Office of Regulatory Staff has reviewed this request, and it does not object under the condition that it may address the reasonableness of these costs in the subsequent general rate case or other proceeding.

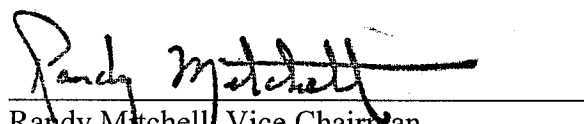
We find and hold that the Company's request is approved.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
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David A. Wright, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
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Randy Mitchell, Vice Chairman  
(SEAL)